S-28
Edinburgh
Polk Landing (site)
private

c. 1837-1840

Only a few plantation houses in Somerset County outwardly reflect what is traditionally thought to be the Greek Revival style, but countless rural as well as town dwellings were finished inside with classically inspired woodwork common to the second quarter of the ninteenth century. Although the "Edinburgh" plantation house has been demolished, a few exterior features indicate its stylistic inspiration. The corners of the traditional two-story, five-bay frame house were accented by paneled pilasters, and the sidelighted center entrance was trimmed with a molded surround marked by plain corner blocks.

Construction of the house is attributed to Colonel Joseph S. Cottman, who purchased the "Edinburgh" tract on Wicomico Creek late in November of 1837. The "Edinburgh" tract at that time included six-hundred and fifty-two acres. At the administration of Joseph S. Cottman's estate the property passed to his second wife, Elizabeth Upshur Dennis Cottman. The creek property passed through various hands until 1923 when Colonel William B. Cochran purchased the creek farm and erected a second dwelling closer to the water. Eventually the old Cottman house was razed.

1. STATE Maryland county Somerset town Polk Landing VICINITY STREET NO.

2 NAME Moyer House

5-28

ORIGINAL OWNER

ORIGINAL USE Dwelling

PRESENT OWNER Harold Moyer

PRESENT USE Deserted

WALL CONSTRUCTION Clapboard NO. OF STORIES 2 1/2

DATE OR PERIOD C. 1750
STYLE Eastern Shore Colonial
ARCHITECT

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

INVENTORY

BUILDER

3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE

4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION

OPEN TO PUBLIC NO

This is a simple frame farmhouse which has been added onto and remodeled over the years. It is 2 1/2 stories high with an A-roof. The house is 5 bays wide with a central door. There is an enclosed chimney at each end of the house. The chimney brick is exposed at the first storey level by the omission of the clapboards. All of the clapboards are very wide and old. The original house was probably only 3 bays wide. The chimney on the right appears larger and older than the one on the left. There is also a clear line in the clapboards where the house was lengthened to its present 5 bay size. This remodeling probably took place about 1800, and at this time the Federal style embellishments were added These include wooden pilasters at each corner of the house, molded window frames and a three part Federal doorway with diamond shaped muntins.

To the right of the main house is a small 1 1/2 storey kitchen wing with a catslide roof.

This house is simple in style but very pleasing and well proportioned.

5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE Endangered

Interior

Exterior

Deserted but well-maintained

6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)

7. PHOTOGRAPH

PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages)
 INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.

9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER

Paul A. Brinkman

DATE OF RECORD August 1, 1967









5-28 Moyer House Somewet



Photographed by DANIEL C. CHURCH